

6 December 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR LTG WILLIAMS

SUBJECT: Ground or Air Forces Trends (GOAT)

I have been briefed by [ ] DB-1B and [ ]  
CIA-SOVA on the progress and potential of the LAMM approach to producing  
order of battle histories and projections. The benefits in accessible,  
agreed and comparable military trend data are impressive. In order to  
support defense policy formation during a period of difficulty for explaining  
DOD resource requirements, I would like to encourage use of the LAMM  
approach for selected opposing ground and air forces in several regions of  
the world. Since LAMM connotes Warsaw Pact forces, I'll offer GOAT as an  
acronym for other forces.

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Similar views are held by some comparative force assessors throughout  
the Washington community. Particularly in my office and in OSD/PAE we  
feel the obligation to actually ask that western and third world intelli-  
gence be produced in a LAMM fashion. I believe that the apparent difficulties  
of management resources, and jurisdiction can be resolved in broad and  
conscious cooperation.

Early next year I'll offer my ideas for countries and forces which  
would be important to have captured in the trend analysis and statistical  
flexibility of a LAMM-type data base. In the meanwhile my officers will  
be discussing the advisable exploitation of this new approach to information  
on military forces with intelligence and Services contacts.

Should you wish to discuss the implications, I would be pleased to  
examine them with you. Your working level officers may discuss our  
preliminary objectives and courses of action with LTC Garrett Ruhl,  
X71312.

A. W. MARSHALL

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